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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/047,676	03/25/1998	NAOHIRO KAGEYAMA	05058/66601	3496
24367	7590	06/17/2004	EXAMINER	
SIDLEY AUSTIN BROWN & WOOD LLP 717 NORTH HARWOOD SUITE 3400 DALLAS, TX 75201			HO, TUAN V	
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
		2612	23	

DATE MAILED: 06/17/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/047,676	KAGEYAMA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	TUAN HO	2612	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 11-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 11-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: ____.

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1. Applicant's arguments, see Paper No. 22, filed 4/5/04, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 11-22 under Hashimoto and Suzuki have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of Suemoto et al (6,151,067).

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 11, 14, 16, 19 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Suemoto et al (US 6,151,067).

With regard to claim 11, Suemoto et al discloses in Fig. 2, a video camera that comprises the memory (VTR mech-unit 21, col. 5, line 57), external apparatus (external apparatus as shown in Fig. 1), detachable attachable connection device (multi-connector 11 is used to connect

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external devices to the video camera 10, col. 5, lines 59-60), connector (device connectors 31, 51, 91, 93 and 301 connect external devices to the camera through connection device 11, col. 4, line 58), detector for detecting attachment condition between the connection device and the connector (an accessories recognition terminal can recognize what accessories are connected to multi-connector 11 based on recognition signals (S0, S1, S2), col. 463-67 and col. 5, lines 1-60), and controller for transitioning the camera into a state in order to output image data through the connector (system controller microcomputer 12, col. 5, lines 27-60).

With regard to claim 14, Suemoto et al discloses in Fig. 2, a video camera that comprises the storage apparatus (video camera 90 can function as a video tape recorder, col. 11, line 40).

Claim 16 recites what was discussed with respect to claim 11.

With regard to claim 19, Suemoto et al discloses in Fig. 2, a video camera that comprises the storage apparatus (video camera 90 can function as a video tape recorder, col. 11, line 40; it is noticed that when video camera 10 recognizes the connection between the camera and video

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camera 90, it is ready to transfer image data to camera 90).

With regard to claim 21, Suemoto et al discloses in Fig. 2, a video camera that comprises the detector detects that the connection device is not attached to the connector (Suemoto et al discloses in col. 5, lines 58-60 that when no accessories are connected to connection device 11, the function of the camera will not be changed; in other words, if camera 10 is in a state not outputting any image data to an external device, the camera state will be kept the same).

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 12, 13, 15, 17, 18, 20 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Suemoto et al.

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With regard to claims 12 and 13, Suemoto et al does not explicitly disclose any personal computer or printer. However, Official Notice is taken for a personal computer or printer that is connected to a video camera so as to store image data or to make a hard copy from image data.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to replace the external apparatus of Suemoto et al with a personal computer or printer so as to store image data in a hard drive or to make a hard copy from the data and thereby to easily archive the information for future use.

With regard to claims 15 and 17, Suemoto et al discloses in Fig. 2, a video camera that comprises the connection device to be a connection cable. Official Notice is taken for a connection device that is in a form of a connection cable so as to remotely extend the connecting between the camera and an external device.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the connection device of Suemoto et al so as to make the connection device that is a connection cable. This is because the connection cable is easily to reach

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other external devices without moving the camera and thereby to improve the efficiency of the Suemoto camera.

With regard to claims 18 and 20, claims 18 and 20 recites what was discussed with respect to claims 13 and 12; where at the time camera 10 recognizes the connection with a printer or a personal computer, camera 10 inherently outputs image data to the printer or the computer so as to store image data in a hard drive or to make a hard copy from the data.

With regard to claim 22, Suemoto et al does not explicitly disclose any memory card connected to camera 10. However, Official Notice is taken for a video camera including a memory card.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to replace the VCR of Suemoto et al a memory card so as to obtain a memory device in a form of semiconductor and thereby to easily to replace the memory and obtain a fast read/write speed.

4. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** See MPEP § 706.07(a).

Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

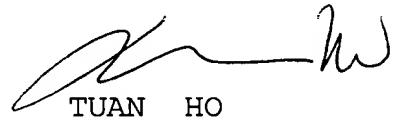
5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to TUAN HO whose telephone number is (703) 305-4943. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri from 7AM to 4PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, WENDY GARBER, can be reached on (703) 305-4924. The fax phone number for the

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organization where this application or proceeding is
assigned is (703) 872-9306

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the
status of this application or proceeding should be directed
to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-
4700.



TUAN HO

Primary Examiner

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